

DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE  
**Security Committee**

8 May 1984

The Honorable Harold Rogers  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Rogers:

25X1 This letter is in response to the inquiry of Ms. Debbie Sussman of your office regarding the U.S. Government's need for an improved radiography-resistant combination lock. ☐

Security officers of the Intelligence Community are concerned that the current emphasis on electronics may have diverted attention from the basic hardware employed in physical security programs. Many of them believe that today's locks, security containers and related hardware are not abreast of state-of-the-art technology. Partially in response to this perception, the Security Committee recently established a Physical Security Working Group. We support the efforts of the General Services Administration to revitalize the Interagency Advisory Committee on Security Equipment and establish new test facilities to review and evaluate new security equipment for government use. Among the needed items of security hardware in the government system is a better radiography-resistant combination lock. Development of such an item would constitute a significant improvement in our security posture. ☐

We hope this is fully responsive to Ms. Sussman's inquiry. ☐

Sincerely,

Chairman

25X1

TO: Congressman Hal Rogers  
(asst. Debbie Sussman 225-4601)

This Committee has been advised that you are interested in supporting, through your membership on the house appropriations committee, the development of a new and better radiographically resistive combination lock. Further, that you wish to know if there is a need for such an item within government.

In answer, it can be said that many members of the Intelligence Community are concerned that today's emphasis on electronics may well be overlooking the basic hardware items so necessary to our physical security programs. It is the belief of many that present locks, security containers, and related hardware are not abreast of state-of-the-art technology.

In light of this, our committee has been looking toward current efforts of the General Services Administration to revitalize the functions of the Interagency Advisory Committee of Security Equipment to establish new test facilities to review and evaluate security equipment for government use, and believes this effort should be supported to the extent possible. However, in the interim, your effort to bring an improved product to the government system would be in order and a better radiographically resistive combination lock for high security application is one of many items of hardware that is needed.